/252 cont./

241 the interest of his superior, the community elder, Dmítrij
Danílow, who took part in cultivating the field the next year.
241 They obtained the always good yield of a ten-fold harvest, but
256 mills were completely lacking. They had to content themselves
177 with wooden mortars and obtained only a kind of coarse groats
which the Jakuten /Yakut/ did not care for at all. Although soon
afterward, with the help of a merchant from Oljókminsk/Olekminsk/,
better farm implements, which were immediately copied by the
excellent Jakut blacksmiths, and hand mills were obtained, a
Russian oven was built, and the first bread grown on the land was
baked, it was still a very long time before the Jakuten -- originally
a herding people -- became accustomed to agriculture. They
regarded it as a sin, and when their elder, Danílow, tried to
force them to do it, for he obtained better and better results in
the following years by making the land arable for sowing during
the year before, the dispute broke out into the open. Bolkáschin
and Danílow were suspended as a result of the constant denuncia-
tions of their subordinates, and Bolkáschin moved away entirely
to Jakutsk, while Danílow finally succeeded in convincing the
higher authorities of the value of his efforts and was reinstated in
office. Nevertheless, despite his /253/ work in the fields,
carried out on a larger scale every year, the Jakuten continued to
be quite indifferent to it.

241 Even up to the most recent times the agriculture of the
113 Jakuten /Yakut/ leaves much to be desired, for I have before me
a printed publication of the Statistical Committee in Jakutsk
for the year 1872, entitled: "Notes on Agriculture by the Jakutsk
Merchant Peter Maksímowitsch Leóntjew," whose introductory
words in particular are very characteristic, and I shall therefore
give them here in translation:

"Almost half a century ago the Jakuten began to engage
in agriculture, but even now they still sow much less grain than
they actually could. The reason is not so much that they have
no interest in agriculture, but rather ignorance or a certain
Asiatic stubbornness that compels them not to imitate the example
of the Russians unconditionally, but rather to act according to